His Majesties
MOST GRACIOUS
SPEECH
To both Houses of
PARLIAMENT,
WITH THE
LORD KEEPERS,
On *Tuesday, October* 19. 1669.

By His Majesties Command.

Edinburgh, Printed by *Andrew Anderson*, Anno 1669.

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My Lords and Gentlemen,

I Am very glad to see you here at this time, and I hope this will be a happy meeting, for I have had great Experience of Your Affection and Loyalty to Me, and am very confident of the continuance of it. It is now almost a Year and a half since Your last sitting; and though my Debts have prest Me very much, yet I was unwilling to call for Your Assistance till this time: what You gave Me last was wholly applyed to the Navy, and that

that Extroardinary Fleet for which it was intended. I desire that you will now take my Debts effectually into your Considerations. Some thing I have to Propose to You of great Importance concerning the Uniting of *England* and *Scotland*, but it will require some length, and I have left that and some other things to My Lord Keeper, to open them more fully to You.

The

The Lord Keepers Speech.

My *Lords*, and you *Knights*, *Citizens* and *Burgesses* of the *House* of *Commons*.

His Majesty in His most gracious Speech hath expressed His great satisfaction in seeing You here at this time, and His hopes of a happy issue of this Meeting; To obtain this, nothing can conduce more then a good Correspondency and Union among your selves.

He hath reason to believe that you all come with the same common Affections for the general good, and therefore perswades himself, there will be no differences between the Two Houses; but if there should be any such, He earnestly recommends it to You, that by Your Moderation and Wisdoms such Expedients may be found out as may Compose them, and that thereby no delay or obstruction be to Your other Proceedings.

His Majesty hath also desired You to take His Debts effectually into Consideration. I need not mention to You the uneasinesse of His Condition with that Burthen, nor the Inconveniences or Mischiefs which might fall out, if he should continue under it.

It is not unknown to You, That His Majesty hath been a happy Instrument by the Treaty at *Aix*, and by the Triple

Alliance

Alliance to procure Peace between the two neighbouring Crowns; The Treating of that Peace (wherein our own Peace is concerned) and His Majesties Reputation abroad, will also much depend upon Your Kindness to Him: And therefore He hopes that You will consider of how great an Importance it is at this time, that His Majesty be enabled to bear such a part in the Affairs of *Europe*, may Contribute most to His own Honour, and the Safety, and Benefit and Glory of this Nation.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

You may remember that upon His Majesties Recommendation, an Act was lately made for Setling Freedom, and Intercourse of Trade between *England* and *Scotland*; which was occasioned upon Complaints of new Duties Imposed in each Kingdom upon divers Commodities of the Growth, Production or Manufacture of the other.

According to this Act, Commissioners were appointed by His Majesty for both Kingdoms to Treat upon that Affair, and they had several meetings, which produced no effect unless it were a Conviction of the difficulty, if not impossibility of Setling it in any other way then by a nearer and more compleat Union of the two Kingdoms.

His Majesty is fully perswaded, that no thing can tend more to the good and security of both Nations, then such an Union; And finds that His Royal Grandfather King *James* of blessed memory, went so far on towards this good work, that by Act of Parliament in the First Year of His Reign, Commissioners were authorized to Treat and Consult with Commissioners from *Scotland* concerning it.

And in pursuance of their Treating, in the fourth Year of His Reign an Act was made for the Repeal of Hostile Laws, and the abolition of the memory of Hostility between the two Nations; and after the end of that Session, about the seventh

ſeventh year of His Reign it was (by the Judges of all the Courts at *Weſtminſter-Hall*) ſolemnly adjudged in the Caſe of the *Poſt Nati*, That thoſe who (after the diſcent of the Crown to King *James*) were born in *Scotland*, were no Aliens in *England* and conſequently were capable not only of Lands, but all other Immunities as if they had been born here. By theſe ſteps ſo great an advance hath been made towards this Union, that His Majeſty wel hopes that what is yet wanting to the perfecting it may be now accompliſhed: The continuance under the ſame Obedience and Subjection for near Threeſcore and ſeven Years, having begotten the ſame common Friends, and common Enemies to both Nations, and taken off a great part of thoſe difficulties which at the firſt ſtood in the way. And therefore His Majeſty doth moſt heartily recommend it unto You, That Commiſſioners may be nominated to Treat and Conſult with Commiſſioners from *Scotland* concerning this Union. His Majeſty hath given Directions to the Earl of *Lauderdale* His Commiſſioner for *Scotland*, to make the like Propoſal to the Parliament which is now ſitting there; and doubts not but upon the meeting of ſuch Commiſſioners of both Kingdoms, thoſe things will be offered to your conſiderations in order to the Union, as ſhal tend to the honour of His Majeſty, and the common good of all his Subjects.

And this is all I have in Command to ſay at this time.

FINIS.